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Submission: I write in support of the merger of Leichhardt Council with one or more of the six inner west councils. I have been a rate payer to Leichhardt Council since 1989 and have encountered frustration with the DA for my own house and subsequent difficulty in support/opposing the DAs of other residents. The Councillors come and go, meetings not particularly well organised (in opposing a development encroaching on the small residence of an elderly lady, our case was heard past midnight on 2 separate occasions), and they do not manage decisions well, when there are significant conflicting views (trees in Illoura Reserve). I believe that some of the councillors are more concerned about local government as a stepping stone to state politics than addressing the needs of the residents. I watched the improvements made in Glebe to the ovals and parks when Glebe was taken from Leichhardt Council and incorporated into the City of Sydney. We need more professional and fewer decision makers in local government.